

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A data storage system, comprising:
  - a vehicle-mounted terminal mounted on a vehicle; and
  - an information center for transmitting data to said vehicle-mounted terminal

5 in response to a request from said vehicle-mounted terminal, and in which

  - said vehicle-mounted terminal includes terminal communicating means for communicating with said information center,
  - temporary cache means for temporarily storing therein said data,
  - permanent cache means for storing therein said data for a predetermined

10 period, and

  - memory selecting means for selectively having said temporary cache means and said permanent cache means store therein said data received by said terminal communicating means, and
  - said information center includes center communicating means for

15 communicating with said vehicle-mounted terminal, and

  - data sorting means for sorting said data into temporary cache data to be stored in said temporary cache means and permanent cache data to be stored in said permanent cache means.
2. A data storage system as set forth in claim 1, in which
 

20 said terminal communicating means is operative to receive a data sorting index while receiving said data from said information center,

  - said memory selecting means is operative to selectively have said temporary cache means and said permanent cache means store therein said data received by said terminal communicating means on the basis of said data sorting index.
- 25 3. A data storage system as set forth in any one of claim 1 or claim 2, in which
  - said information center further includes available space obtaining means for obtaining a storage space available in said permanent cache means.
4. A data storage system as set forth in any one of claims 1 through 3, in which
 

30 said information center further includes data deletion means for deleting said permanent cache data stored in said permanent cache means.
5. A vehicle-mounted terminal mounted on a vehicle, comprising:

terminal communicating means for communicating with an information center operative to transmit data,

temporary cache means for temporarily storing therein said data,

permanent cache means for storing therein said data for a predetermined  
5 period, and

memory selecting means for selectively having said temporary cache means and said permanent cache means store therein said data.

6. An information center comprising:

center communicating means for transmitting data to a vehicle-mounted  
10 terminal in response to a request from said vehicle-mounted terminal; and

data sorting means for sorting said data into temporary cache data to be temporarily stored in said vehicle-mounted terminal and permanent cache data to be stored for a predetermined period in said vehicle-mounted terminal.

7. A data storage method, comprising:

15 a data sorting step of sorting data into temporary cache data to be temporarily stored and permanent cache data to be stored for a predetermined period;

a temporary storing step of temporarily storing therein said temporary cache data; and

20 a permanent storing step of storing therein said permanent cache data.

8. A data storage method as set forth in claim 7, which further comprises

an available space calculating step of calculating a storage space available in permanent cache means operative to store therein said permanent cache data.

9. A data storage method as set forth in claim 7 or claim 8, which further  
25 comprises a data deleting step of deleting said permanent cache data stored in said permanent storing step.